DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 127 255 SO 009 365

AUTHOR Partnow, Patricia H.
TITLE Floral Resources in Makushin Bay: The Aleuts of the Eighteenth Century, Social Studies Unit, Book III.
INSTITUTION Alaska Native Education Board, Inc., Anchorage.
PUB DATE 76
NOTE 25p.; For related documents, see SO 009 360-367
AVAILABLE FROM Indian Education Program, Anchorage School District, 4600 DeBarr Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99504 (free until supply is depleted)

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.83 HC-$1.67 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS American Indians; *Botany; *Cultural Education; Elementary Secondary Education; Food; Junior High School Students; Medicine; *Plant Identification; Resources; *Social Studies Units; *Supplementary Reading Materials; Weeds
IDENTIFIERS *Aleuts

ABSTRACT

This booklet illustrates the major plant resources in Makushin Bay and explains how each plant was used by the 18th-century Aleuts in their daily lives. Seventeen plants are illustrated and identified by their common names and, for many, the Latin names are mentioned, also. The plants represent a variety of habitats that include sandy areas; shaded damp areas; and exposed, windy dry areas. Students are encouraged to do individual research on each plant's habitat to gain a more complete picture of the Aleutian environment. The uses of the plants are varied: beach grass was used in weaving baskets and mats; poison extracted from roots of the monkshood was used in whale hunting; leaves of the flowering ragwort were placed on cuts and boils to help them drain; and salmonberries were picked and eaten raw in the fall. This booklet is to be used as supplementary reading material for the social studies unit, The Aleuts of the Eighteenth Century. (Author/AV)

****
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
****

Floral Resources in Makushin Bay

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Patricia H. Partnow

TO ERIC AND ORGANIZATIONS OPERATING UNDER AGREEMENTS WITH THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION. FURTHER REPRODUCTION OUTSIDE THE ERIC SYSTEM REQUIRES PERMISSION OF THE COPYRIGHT OWNER.

ED127255

SP009365

Aleuts of the Eighteenth Century Social Studies Unit

BOOK III

Written by

Patricia H. Partnow

2

Illustrated by
Jeanette Bailey

A Production of

Alaska Bilingual Education Center

of the
Alaska Native Education Board
4510 International Airport Road
Anchorage, Alaska

Copyright © 1976
Alaska Native Education Board

4 - 76 - 500

Special thanks to

RAY L. HUDSON

for providing information and checking this book for accuracy.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 1

Anemone 3

Avens 4

Beach grass 5

Blueberries 6

Iris 7

Lady-fern 8

Low putchkii 9

Monkshood 10

Mossberries (crowberries) . . . 11

Nootka lupine 12

Petrouskii 13

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pondweed 14

Putchkii 15

Ragwort 16

Salmonberries 17

Wild geranium 18

Yarrow 19

FLORAL RESOURCES IN MAKUSHIN BAY

Introduction

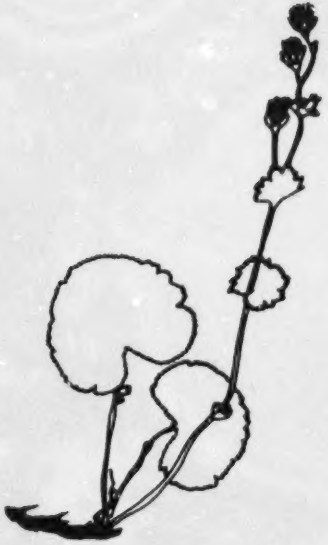
The Map of Makushin Bay shows only faunal, or animal resources. This booklet will illustrate the major floral, or plant resources in the same area. Under the name and picture of each plant, you will find an explanation of how, to our knowledge today, the 18th Century Aleuts used that plant in their daily lives.

Each of the plants in this book grows in a slightly different habitat from each of the others: some prefer sandy areas; others grow in shaded, damp areas; still others are able to grow in even the most exposed, windy, and dry locations. Do individual research on each plant's habitat to gain a more complete picture of the Aleutian environment.

Anemone

The juice of the *Anemòne Narcissiflòra Var. Villosíssima* was used to treat a hemorrhage. The root was boiled, then the resulting juice was drunk by the patient.

Avens



The roots of *Geum Calthifolium* were boiled and the tonic was drunk for colds and sore throats. Also, the wet or boiled leaves were used to cover and heal persistent open sores.

Beach Grass

Beach grass was traditionally used in weaving baskets and mats, and to cover the tops of Aleut barabaras.

Blueberries

Blueberries were harvested in the fall. The blueberries which grow in the Aleutians are *Vaccinium uliginosum var. alpinum Bigel.*

Yarrow

Yarrow, *Achillèa boreàlis*, was used as a medicine to treat chest, stomach and muscular pains and for colds.

Iris

The root of the *Iris Setosa subsp. Setosa* was boiled in water, then taken as a laxative.

13

Lady-fern

The young shoots of this plant, *Athýrium fílix-fémina*, called "fiddle-head ferns", may have been eaten raw in the spring.

Low putchkii

The roots of the low putchkii, *Angelica lucida*, were split, heated, and used as a poultice.

Monkshood

The root of the beautiful *Aconitum* plant contains a deadly poison. Aleuts in some parts of the Aleutians used a poison prepared from this plant in whale hunting.

Mossberries
(also called crowberries)

These berries from *Empètrum nìgrum* were collected in the fall and probably stored in seal oil or fresh water for the winter.

Nootka lupine

The skin was scraped from the root of the *Lupinus nootkatensis* plant, and the insides were eaten raw or cooked with seal oil.

Petrouskii

The stalk of the wild celery plant, *Ligústicum Scòticum subsp. Hulténíi*, was eaten in the spring and summer, and the leaves were boiled to make a tea. The stems and leaves were also used in soups and boiled with fish and seal meat.

19

Pondweed

The roots of *Menyanthes trifoliata* were an ingredient in a medicine used to ease gas pains, constipation, and rheumatism.

Putchkii

In the spring, when the plant was tender, the hairy stem of the *Heracleum lanatum* plant was peeled off and the inside of the stem was eaten raw.

Ragwort

The leaves of the flowering *Senècio pseùdo-Arnica* plant were collected and placed on cuts and boils to help them drain.

Salmonberries

The juicy berries of *Rùbus spectàbilis* were picked and eaten in the fall.

23

Wild geranium

The leaves of *Geránium eriánthum* were boiled and used as a gargle to treat sore throats.